

I. IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the existing Abstract and replace the same with the Abstract as set forth on the following, separate page. Respectfully, Applicant submits that the proposed replacement Abstract traverses the examiner's stated objections to the Abstract in the application as filed.

ABSTRACT

An apparatus for shaping the output beam of a strip of lasers, or an array of such strips, comprising a first reflective member including at least a first reflective element for deflecting a first portion of the output beam in a first direction oriented at a first angle in the slow axis direction and at a second angle in the fast axis direction, and at least a second reflective member including at least a first reflective element for deflecting the first output beam portion from the first direction to a second direction in the Z axis. The output beam is thus shaped to define at least two beams comprising at least the first portion and a remainder of the output beam which is propagated along the Z axis without deflection by any reflective member, with the first portion of the output beam being oriented approximately parallel to the un-deflected remainder.